

MINUTES OF MARION CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016
6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting was held by City Council on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. over which Mayor Bobby L. Davis presided. Council members Michael Baker, Ralph Atkinson, Ronald Atkinson, Odessa Gregg, Joseph Frazier and Emerson Hunt were present. Also present were City Administrator Alan Ammons, City Treasurer Patricia Brown City Clerk Pam Jones and the City Attorney.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order and Councilwoman Gregg gave the opening prayer. Mr. Ammons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Davis welcomed citizens, guests and the press. (Hometown TV).

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting May 10, 2106 and Special Meeting on June 7, 2016, seconded by Councilman Joseph Frazier; motion carried.

Fireman Andy Niedenthal of the Marion Fire Department, was named *May Employee of the Month* and presented with a gift certificate. Mayor Davis thanked Mr. Niedenthal for a job well done.

The Mayor's Monthly Beautification award for April was awarded to Mr. Clifford Williams, recent City of Marion retiree. Mayor Davis thanked Mr. Williams for his help in keeping Marion clean and beautiful and wished him all the best on his retirement.

Captain Chris Smith introduced the two newest Marion police officers; Mr. Jonathan Herring and Ms. Casey Henry, who expressed their determination to help protect the citizens and the City of Marion. Mayor Davis welcomed them and expressed his delight that they are here.

Bishop Michael Blue presented information on the CCFM Conference 2016 being held at the Florence Civic Center and officially invited the Mayor, Council members, City officials, law enforcement and citizens, to this event. There will be seminars, teachings, music and special guests, such as John Maxwell, at no charge to attend. Anyone and everyone is invited. Bishop Blue stated that Marion is "manger where this baby was born", so to speak, so he wants to officially give thanks for being housed

here in Marion. We want to make the Pee Dee Region, in general, and Marion, in particular, a better place in which to live, serve and grow. Mayor Davis thanked Bishop Blue for putting all of this together and would like to give credit where credit is due, as this has been a remarkable program over the years. Councilwoman Odessa Gregg that she is proud of Bishop Blue and how much he means to the Pee Dee area. She thanked him for his concern for all people, young and old. Mayor Davis thanked Bishop Blue for his help and involvement in each of the MLK Unity Walks, giving and not asking for anything in return. Mayor Davis commented that he is glad Door of Hope is in Marion. Councilman Hunt thanked Bishop Blue for being in Marion and has had the privilege of knowing him for several years. He has much appreciation and thanks for Bishop Blue and the help and encouragement he gave to Councilman Hunt during his school years and beyond.

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to appoint Corey Craig to Tree Commission for a 3-year Term to expire May 2019, seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson; motion carried.

Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to appoint to Planning and Zoning Commission: Richard Skipper to Fill unexpired seat of Colonel James Page, term to Expire July 2018; Michelle Washington to fill unexpired seat of Ogleretta White, term to expire July 2018; Fred Gause to fill unexpired seat of Mary Eaddy, term to expire July 2018. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson, who also commented that Mr. Tommy Lett has expressed an interest in being on this committee when there is a vacancy. The motion carried.

Councilman Emerson Hunt made a motion to approve use of the Opera House on August 13th, for a mentoring program for young ladies, being held by Ms. Sturkey and Ms. Campbell; seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried.

Councilman Michael Baker mad a motion to accept the bid of \$17,010 from Linehart Fire Services for 35 SCGA Cylinders for the Fire Department, seconded by Councilman Emerson Hunt. These cylinders will be good for 13 years and replace the current cylinders. The motion carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson made a motion to accept the bid of \$27,600 from Sunbelt Roofing to replace the roof at City Hall, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried.

Councilman Emerson Hunt made a motion to accept the bid of \$13,940 from Sunbelt Roofing to replace the roof on the Watsonia Recreation Center; seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson; motion carried,

Regarding the NW Drainage Project, Mr. Ammons stated that CTC funds were being used and that this would complete the project from Withlacoochee Park all the way to Catfish Creek. Councilman Ralph Atkinson made a motion to accept the bid of \$65,300 from Herrington Construction for the NW Marion Drainage Project, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

The NW Drainage Project should be completed in 30-45 days and the only outstanding project at this time is the Council on Aging parking lot. COA project ran into some logistical problems with the school district, and may be delayed. Once the drainage project is completed, we will be able to go back and ask for more CTC funds. We need to look at the area around Edgar Street and Simmons Street, where the pipe was replaced before (that ran behind Grice's pool, the 36" pipe that went to Liberty Street). Behind those houses are a couple of areas that have been barricaded due to sinkholes. SCDOT recommends that we apply for CTC funds for this to be repaired. There will be an "Active Shooter" class at CD Joyner on July 17th. Flyers will be sent to local churches. If you know of any other groups you want to be notified, please contact Ms. Jones. Mayor Davis commented that we also need to reach out to daycares. Mayor Davis asked that it be put on the flyers that this program was being put on by SLED. The sidewalk on S. Main, on the left, just before Sav-way, has caved in and will be worked on starting tomorrow. Cones have been put in place, indicating a problem area. Councilman Hunt commented that due to all the rain and water running thru, there may be more areas where the dirt underneath some streets and sidewalks is being washed away. GSWSA has repaired and patched a lot of spots in the streets, but with all the water we've had, some of it is being washed away. Mr. Harold Coleman at DOT has come out and patched some of them for us, but the patching will not hold for very long if we continue to get the water that we have been getting. Mr. Ammons stated that anyone that saw any problem areas should call him so that he can report it. Mayor Davis commented that he was in the MASC Board of Director's meeting and we are going to be getting a little more money for funding of roads; it will come to DOT and we'll try to get some additional monies to do some of our roads.

CITY ATTORNEY'S UPDATE

Attorney Kenneth Davis had nothing to update at this time.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mayor Davis stated that Departmental Reports were sent to Council in their packets.

DISTRICTS AND CITY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL AND MAYOR

Councilman Emerson Hunt had no comment at this time.

Councilwoman Odessa Gregg had no comment at this time.

Councilman Ralph Atkinson had no comment at the time.

Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson asked for an update on the old hospital. Mayor Davis responded that the buyers had to go in and clean out the whole building; it had mold and some unexpected issues and the grass will be cut.

Councilman Joseph Frazier had no comment at this time.

Councilman Michael Baker had no comment at this time.

Mayor Bobby L. Davis noted that a "Saggy Pants Ordinance" is being enforced by several cities, and we will get information from MASC regarding this and what their thoughts are. It will also go through our Attorney. Mayor Davis commented that he received a letter thanking Mr. Ammons for his quick response to some graffiti that was painted on the sidewalk on Withlacoochee. Mayor Davis thanked Mr. Ammons for quickly taking care of this issue. The Police Sub-station plan for Jones Avenue is still in the works. We can't go into specific details at this time, but will provide more information at next month's meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pro-tem Ronald Atkinson made a motion to enter Executive Session for Legal Advice from the City Attorney, seconded by Councilman Michael Baker; motion carried. Upon returning from Executive Session, Mayor Davis stated that no action was taken. Councilman Ralph Atkinson made a motion to return to open session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Councilman Michael Baker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ralph Atkinson, motion carried.

Mayor Bobby L. Davis

City Clerk Pam Jones

Taped: June 14, 2016